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Reprt on the Pottawatomies

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 6, 1878.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. INGALLS, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. 766.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 766) to legalize certain patents issued to members of the Pottawatomie tribe of Indians, report:

That on the 23d of February, 1871, the President of the United States ordered patents to issue to certain Pottawatomie Indians who had not become citizens in accordance with the provisions of the third article of the treaty of 1861 and the sixth article of the treaty of 1867 with said Indians. The patents issued on the 15th of April, 1871, and subsequently several of these patentees conveyed their lands to innocent purchasers in good faith for a valuable consideration, who have made lasting improvements thereon and are now occupying the same. The Indians subsequently complied with the treaty, and the object of this bill is to quiet title and prevent litigation which might arise from apparent defects resulting from the premature acts of the government in issuing the patents.

The committee recommend the passage of the bill, with two verbal amendments to make it correspond with the treaty.